

SEP 20 2004

001/013

## MICHAELSON &amp; ASSOCIATES

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**To:** Examiner Christine Ng  
US Patent and Trademark Office  
GAU 2663

**Phone:**  
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**Date:** September 20, 2004

**Number of pages,**  
**including cover sheet:** 13

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**MESSAGE:** Applicants: Simon P. VALENTINE, Christopher R. LINZELL, Lee A. WALKER  
Atty. Doc.: 3Com-81/RCE(3022.WDS.US.RCE)  
Serial No.: 09/662,533 Filed: September 15, 2000  
Group Art Unit: 2663  
Examiner: Christine Ng Confirmation No.: 1915  
Title: EFFICIENT METHOD OF DEDUCING NETWORK TOPOLOGY  
INCLUDING ENDSTATIONS

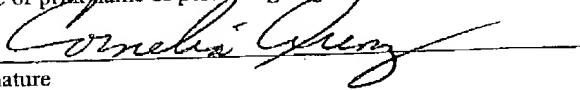
Attached for filing please find the following:  
1. "no fee" Transmittal Letter (in duplicate); and  
2. Preliminary Amendment.

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PATENT APPLICATION

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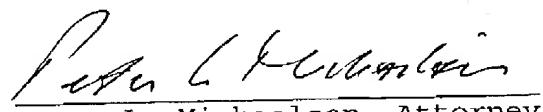
Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R:

I believe that no fee of any type is required for the accompanying preliminary amendment submitted in connection with the above-captioned application.

In the event any such fee is due for this preliminary amendment, kindly charge that fee to my deposit account number 13-3083. To facilitate that charge, a duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Peter L. Michaelson, Attorney  
Reg. No. 30,090  
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September 20, 2004

Page 1 of 2

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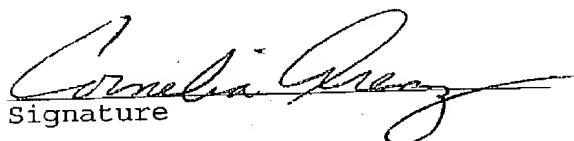
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S I R:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Further to the pre-examination interview held with the Examiner on September 1, 2004 and in conjunction with the Request for Continued Examination filed August 11, 2004, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

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